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Pond Infusoria.¹ — The activity of the Bohemian fresh-water biological station is manifested by Švec's paper on the Infusoria of the Unterpočernitzer pond. Workers in fresh-water fauna will welcome the very full biological and systematic treatment of an hitherto much neglected field of investigation. Pelagic Infusoria are represented by but seven species, three of which are described as new. *Codonella lacustris* alone occurs throughout the year, being found under the ice in the winter and reaching a maximum in the spring. The lowering of the temperature of the pond during the summer by an influx of rain water is followed by a rapid increase in the number of this species. Littoral Infusoria abound, not only among the aquatic vegetation and the diatoms alongshore, but also in the surface scum which gathers in such regions. The greater part of the sixty-nine species recorded in the paper occur in this region. The bottom fauna contains but few individuals belonging to but six species. In all, ten new species are described.

C. A. K.

Variation in Veneridæ.² — The result of work on 1000 specimens of a Western representative of the large Veneridæ from many localities is another illustration of the extreme variation, not only in color tint but in color scale and color pattern, which may exist in an otherwise very well demarcated form. Sixteen varieties based on color are described and arranged in six groups. These varieties are not traced to their relations with environment, though all forms, except those based on the number of rays, are said to be highly local. The varieties would appear to be discontinuous; *e.g.*, Mr. Stearns appears to indicate that the number of rays is either just about the typical twenty or "very many" more or "very many" less. It is interesting to note that the two valves vary independently of each other. In fact, it would seem from Mr. Stearns's description that one valve might be *Cytherea crassatelloides* var. *pauciradiata*, while the other was *C. crass.* var. *multiradiata*. With this extreme variation in color goes extreme stability of form and interior coloration. The only variety of form noted is in degree of ventricosity and elongation, clearly correlated with an exposed habitat calling for deeper burrowing and consequent elongation of siphons.

¹ Švec, F. Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Infusorien Böhmens. I. Die ciliaten Infusorien des Unterpočernitzer Teiches, *Bull. Int. Acad. d. Sci. Bohême* (1897), pp. 1-19, Tab. I, II.

² Stearns, R. E. C. Notes on *Cytherea* (Tivela) *crassatelloides* Conrad, with Descriptions of Many Varieties, *Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum*, vol. xxi (1898), pp. 371-378, Pls. XXIII-XXV.